

CAPE EASTERN REGION

THE REGION held a small farewell party for Mrs. Pirie, at which she was presented with an inscribed tray. So far, no new Chairman has been elected for the Region.

The General Law Amendment Bill.

A stand with posters was held in the centre of Port Elizabeth to protest against "Vorster's Bill".

The Black Sash were co-sponsors with the Institute of Race Relations and the Progressive Party of a protest meeting held at the Crispin Hall on May 8th. The guest speaker was Mr. Leo Boyd.

News from Branches.

Mrs. Pirie and two other members of the Regional Council attended a meeting in Grahamstown at which Mrs. Currie of Salem Branch was elected Chairman of the combined Grahamstown/Salem Branch. A bring-and-buy sale held at the meeting brought in a useful sum of money for Black Sash funds.

Alexandria Branch has sent in a cheque for Regional funds, the proceeds of a cake sale held at Bushmans River during the school holidays.

Advice Office.

Cape Eastern Region is anxious to set up an Advice Office in the area. Useful information and advice on how to set about it have been obtained from Mrs. Robb of Cape Western.

TRANSVAAL REGION

REGIONAL Groups and Branches have been very active in many ways in addition to their participation in the protests and planning against the "No-trial Bill" and the Bantu Laws Amendment Bill.

Mataffin now has a group of 10 members, including several new ones — a welcome addition to our lowveld contingent.

Witbank Branch is a very strong group and holds regular meetings, although the distance from Johannesburg keeps members somewhat out of touch with Regional activities.

Rustenburg Branch, always an enterprising and energetic group, has continued its interest in Indian Affairs, and recently made an investigation into Convict Labour on farms in the area.

Waverley Group recently organized a most successful multi-racial afternoon tea-party, attended by women and children.

North Eastern Group has held a highly successful Book Sale for Branch funds, and is planning another in the near future.

North Western Group holds regular meetings, often with speakers, in the evenings, as most of the members are working women.

OBITUARY

MISS FRANCES VERRINDER

WE ARE VERY SAD to announce that Miss Frances Verrinder, a member of the Cape Eastern Region of the Black Sash, died in Port Elizabeth on 29th April at the age of 77, after a short illness. She was a very keen member of the Black Sash, and stood with us in protest whenever she could. She attended meetings and conferences when she found the time to spare from her many other activities.

Miss Verrinder did truly wonderful work in Port Elizabeth after her retirement from St. Cyprian's School in Cape Town, where she was Headmistress for 20 years. She started a Sunday School in Veeplaats, taught Scripture at the Mission Schools and at the Chinese Schools. She was Manager of the Chinese Primary School and served on numerous committees, including the Y.W.C.A., the University Women's Association, the Mayor's School Feeding Fund, the Distressed Areas Council, the Black Sash, the S.A. Institute of Race Relations — in fact, she did anything where she saw there was a need, travelling miles by bus and on foot.

Miss Verrinder had Cambridge Honours degrees in Mathematics and Science. Her father was a Liberal Reformer and a man of great integrity, which was passed on to his daughter. She met in her home many famous people, including Sydney and Beatrice Webb, G. K. Chesterton and Mrs. Pankhurst.

She lived her religion twenty-four hours a day and devoted her life to serving others, working fearlessly at all times for human rights. Altogether her death is a great loss to the community and the country.

Bryanston Branch holds regular meetings with a speaker on topics of interest. Mrs. Muriel Fisher has recently been presenting her series of talks on African Affairs which have been appearing in the Magazine.

Northern Group has recently held a successful Jumble Sale, organized by Mrs. Beinashowitz.

The Saturday Club.

The Club has resumed its fortnightly Saturday afternoon meetings which are fairly well attended and greatly enjoyed. At a recent meeting Miss Eleanor Hawarden gave a most interesting talk on Mosheshe, and the last meeting took the form a lively debate on "Woman's Place is in the Kitchen".

Court Attendances.

A roster drawn up by Mrs. Hahn has ensured regular attendances at local Commissioner's Courts during recent months. At our last Regional Council meeting, Mrs. Driver and Miss Harper

(Continued Overleaf)